

We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. Come with your mighty power to break and defeat every evil plan and purpose of the devil, of the ungodly influences and ideas of the world, and of our own sinful nature. Use your power to calm the unrest among nations and peoples so that your kingdom may spread and grow.

Strengthen our confidence in knowing that your kingdom will never be destroyed.

O Christ our King, you have supremacy over all. You will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity. You have destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Reign in our hearts that we may serve you more faithfully and speak more boldly to others of your saving love.

Praise be to the Lord God, who alone does marvelous deeds. May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

special prayers may follow

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

silent prayer

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever, King of kings and Lord of lords.

The Lord God Almighty reigns! Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing.....Hebrews 13:20,21 (EHV)

Now may the God of peace – who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, in connection with his blood, which established the eternal testament – may he equip you with every good thing to do his will, as he works in us what is pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ. To him be glory forever and ever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn.....“In Christ Alone” (CWS 752)

Christus Solus / Christ Alone Sunday November 26, 2017



St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School

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Welcome!

We extend a very warm and friendly welcome to all who've joined us for worship today. We pray that the God of grace, who sent his Son to save you and who proved his love for you by raising him from the dead, will fill your heart with joy in knowing that your salvation has been made sure through Jesus. May God bless your worship!

If you're a guest with us this morning, please sign the Friendship Register in your row, checking any applicable boxes. If you need assistance of any kind, don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers. If you'd like to learn more about St. John congregation or the Bible's teachings, please speak with Pastor Mike Gehl. And if you don't already have a church-home, feel free to return and worship with us again at your earliest convenience.

Our restrooms are located downstairs (through the entryway). Activity bags to help keep children occupied are on a hanger in the entryway. We love having your children sit with you during the service, but if you feel that your infant or toddler is getting a little too fussy, you may briefly step out of the sanctuary until they're ready to come back in.

Today's order of service is displayed on the screen and printed out in the worship folder (with music notes) for your convenience. Hymns are found in the red book in front of you.

St. John also operates an all-day preschool and a full-day kindergarten through eighth grade Lutheran Elementary School. We're a member of the Fox Valley Lutheran High School federation. If you are interested in hearing more about these opportunities for Christian education, please speak with Pastor Gehl or Principal Tim Raddatz.

At Your Service Today:

	<u>7:45</u>	<u>10:15</u>
Greeters:	Pat & Betty Bea Ambrosius Brenda Pohlman	Faye Patoka Aura Lee Gehl Carol Just
Ushers:	Kevin Vande Hey Chad Schmidt Jesse Schmidt Steve Wierschke Bernie Vickman	Lloyd Patoka Terry Sieker Richard Patton Les Schmidt Bart Reschke
PowerPoint:	Phil Roberts	Lou Ann Beard
Altar Guild:	Lou Ann G, Janet W, and Courtney S	

The Apostles' Creed

- 1. I believe in God the Father, maker of the heav'ns and earth, And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son, of human birth, Virgin-born, the Lord's incarnate, whom the Spirit did conceive, Suffered under Pontius Pilate; our salvation to achieve.**
- 2. Crucified, was dead and buried, down to hell in victory; From the dead he rose the third day; up to heav'n triumphantly. There at God's right hand he's ruling, by his will the world is led. He will come to judge the nations, both the living and the dead.**
- 3. I believe in God the Spirit, in his church, his chosen band. They are joined in close communion, holy in his sight they stand. I believe in sin forgiven; that the dead will rise again. I believe in life eternal. Amen! And again, Amen!**

Thank-Offering

We gather an offering to support the Lord's work that we do here and around the world. This is very important to us. If you are visiting us today, please do not feel that you must participate in the offering. You are our guest!

Prayer of the Church

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory.

You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise, for you created all things and by your will they were created and have their being.

Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns!

You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased us for God. From every tribe and language and people and nation, you have called us into your kingdom and have made us priests to serve you, our God and Father.

Help us live as royal priests.

We give thanks to you, O Christ our Shepherd-King, because you have searched for us and found us. Lead us to the green pastures and quiet waters of your saving love, so that we may enjoy peace and comfort for our souls.

Heal our hearts when they are broken with sin and guilt. Strengthen us when we are weak.

made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. ²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe. In fact, there is no difference, ²³because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson John 14:1-6 (EHV)

Jesus tells his disciples that he is going away and that he will come back and take them to his Father's house. He makes it very clear that he is the only way to heaven.

¹“Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to be with me, so that you may also be where I am. ⁴You know where I am going, and you know the way.” ⁵“Lord, we don't know where you are going,” Thomas replied, “so how can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day..... “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (CW 341)

SermonActs 4:1-12 (EHV)

¹As Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the commander of the temple guard, and the Sadducees approached them. ²They were very upset because Peter and John were teaching the people and proclaiming the resurrection from the dead in connection with Jesus. ³They arrested them and put them in jail until the next day because it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the message believed, and the number of the men increased to about five thousand. ⁵The next day, the rulers, the elders, and the experts in the law assembled in Jerusalem ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and all the rest of the high priest's family. ⁷After they made Peter and John stand in front of them, they began to question them: “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel, ⁹if we are being questioned today for a kind act that was done for the lame man, as to how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead! By him this man stands before you healed. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”

Christus Solus – In Christ Alone!

Service Theme for the Last Sunday of End Time – Christ the King: Lord, keep us joyful in Christ our King! On this last Sunday of the Church Year, we rejoice in the fulfillment of God's plan for our salvation through Christ our King. And we rejoice because Christ our King reigns – the king who once came as a sacrifice; the king who still shepherds us day by day; the king who one day will conquer all our enemies. Rejoice in his reign and look forward to the day when every knee will bow with us before the King of kings and Lord of Lords!

Order of Worship

Opening Hymn..... “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name” (CW 370)

Greeting

In the name of the Father and of the Son [†] and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Glory Be to God (Gloria in Excelsis)..... Luke 2:14

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|---|--|
| 1. All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race. | 3. O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share. |
| 2. Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son. | 4. You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
“All glory be to God!” Amen. |

Prayer of the Day

Heavenly Father, in your undeserved love you sent us your Son, Jesus, to be the only Savior this world will ever know or need. He who had no sin became sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Help us to daily live in repentance and to cherish his saving work for us, so that we no longer live for ourselves but for him who died for us and was raised again. Amen.

First Lesson Isaiah 45:5, 6, 18-25 (EHV)

The prophet Isaiah spoke the word of the Lord over 700 years before the birth of the Savior, Jesus. Yet Isaiah's book, more than any other book in the Old Testament, contains prophecies about the person and work of the coming Messiah. In this excerpt, the LORD says that he is the only saving God. In English translations, when the word "LORD" is printed in all uppercase letters, it indicates that the Hebrew name for God used there is the name that means "Savior-God" or "Redeemer." In other words, this is none other than the second person of the Trinity, the eternal Lord Jesus, speaking.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other. Except for me, there is no god. I will equip you even though you do not know me, ⁶so that people will know from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets that there is no one except me. I am the LORD, and there is no other. ¹⁸This is what the LORD says. He created the heavens, He is God! He formed the earth and made it. Yes, he established it! He did not create it to remain empty. He formed it to be inhabited. I am the LORD, and there is no other. ¹⁹I did not speak in secret, or from someplace in a land of darkness. I did not say to the descendants of Jacob, "Seek me in the midst of chaos." I, the LORD, am speaking in righteousness. I am declaring what is right. ²⁰Gather! Come! Draw near together, you survivors from the nations. They have no knowledge – those who are lifting up their idols of wood and praying to a god that cannot save. ²¹Make an announcement and come close. Let them consult together. Who made this known ahead of time? From time past who announced it? Was it not I, the LORD? There is no god except me, a righteous God and Savior. There is no one except me. ²²Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth, because I am God, and there is no other. ²³I have sworn by myself. From my mouth a righteous word has gone out, and it will not return unfulfilled. Indeed, to me every knee will bow, and every tongue will swear allegiance. ²⁴"Only in the LORD," they will say of me, "Only in the LORD is there true righteousness and strength." To him they will come and be ashamed— all those who are angry at him. ²⁵In the LORD, all the descendants of Israel will be justified. They will be praised by him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day Psalm 98 (EHV)



Sing to the LORD a new song,

for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known.

He has revealed his righteousness to the eyes of the nations.

He has remembered his mercy and his faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Refrain

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Break out in joyful song! Make music!

Make music to the LORD with the lyre,

with the lyre and the sound of music.

Shout for joy before the King, the LORD.

He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with fairness.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson Romans 3:19-24 (EHV)

Saint Paul says that the law of God silences us. It will not allow us to say, "But I'm better than... at least I haven't..." The law forces us to be conscious of how sinful we are. We are freely declared righteous in God's sight through the redeeming work of Jesus.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin. ²¹But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been